a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi18Zn27 by weight percent.

4. (amended) [The] An electrically conductive metal strip for the production of electrical contact components, comprising: [as defined in Claim 2,]

a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the core strip possesses an electrical conductivity of at least 20 $m\Omega/mm^2$, and wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi18Zn27 by weight percent.

5. (amended) [The] An electrically conductive metal strip for the production of electrical contact components, comprising: [as defined in Claim 1,]

a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi18Zn20 by weight percent.

6. (amended) [The] An electrically conductive metal strip for the production of electrical contact components, comprising: [as defined in Claim 2,]

a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the core strip possesses an electrical conductivity of at least 20 $m\Omega/mm^2$, and wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi18Zn20 by weight percent.

7. (amended) [The] An electrically conductive metal strip for the production of electrical contact components, comprising: [as defined in Claim 1,]

a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi12Zn24 by weight percent.

8. (amended) [The] An electrically conductive metal strip for the production of electrical contact components, comprising: [as defined in Claim 2,]

a core strip made of a copper material; and a metal facing, made of a copper-nickel-zinc alloy, roll-bonded clad on at least one side thereof wherein the core strip possesses an electrical conductivity of at least 20 $m\Omega/mm^2$, and wherein the metal facing consists of CuNi12Zn24 by weight percent.

Please cancel claims 9 and 10.

17. (amended) A plug connector comprising the metal strip as defined in Claim [1] 3.

Remarks

After the above amendments, claims 3-8 and 11-17 are pending in this application.

Objection to the Specification and Rejection of Claims 3-8 and 11-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

With the above amendments, applicant has clarified that the percentages given in the specification refer to percentage weight composition, and not percentage molar composition. As discussed in the previous response by applicant, it is clear that this is what applicant's specification conveyed to one of skill in the art. With this clarification, the objection to the specification and the rejection of claims 3-8 and 11-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph are now moot.

Claims 3-8 and 12-16

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-8 and 12-16, and applicant has rewritten these claims in independent form as appropriate. Thus, these claims are in condition for allowance.